



VISION

The vision of the Convergence Dialogue on Reimagining Care for Older Adults is to improve supports and services for older adults so that, wherever they call home, they may live with dignity, choice, and self-determination.

The needs, lived experiences, goals, and preferences of older adults must shape the resources needed to achieve this vision. We envision a more inclusive system where older adults can, as much as possible, control their own destinies.

Achieving this goal requires coordination by all partners in care. Families and friends, paid caregivers, providers, community-based organizations, government and private payers support older adults with care needs. As much as possible, social supports must be available, well-coordinated, affordable, and supportive of family and friends and other caregivers.

This vision recognizes that:

- Older people live well and thrive in settings best suited to their individual needs.
- Policies, practices, programs, and services must not perpetuate inequities or limit people's potential to age with dignity.
- When possible, family members should be part of care delivery teams and receive meaningful support and assistance as they serve in that role.
- Housing should support the physical and cognitive limitations of aging as well as residents' integration and engagement within their communities.
- Robust choices of housing arrangements are needed including private homes, nursing homes, residential care residences, and other supportive housing models. In all settings, residents with needs should have access to necessary care and services to maintain their best physical, mental, and psychosocial well-being in accordance with comprehensive assessment and care plans.
- Congregate care settings are vital to the vision of older adults' dignity, choice, and self-determination. Policy makers should support financially viable business models that respond to residents' needs and preferences.
- Government and private payers should encourage and adequately fund innovation, safety, and quality in residential care environments and a robust continuum of care.
- Technologies are integral to emerging care delivery. They should be designed with older adults to enhance health, autonomy, safety, affordability, and personal connections.
- Older adults who can afford it should share the cost of their care. All levels of government have roles to play to ensure older people receive the care they need in their communities.
- Caregivers need to be appropriately trained and paid. Opportunities for increasing the supply of all staff, in particular direct care workers, and advancement within paid care work should be encouraged and expanded. Government programs should provide necessary and consistent financial support for such supports and services.

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